/58 cont./

301 237 are also seen nowadays on some Tongan women and a few men. But they
301 237 have been altered by inlays of silver ornaments (rhomboids, crosses,
326 dots) obtained from melted silver coins. Several Tongan "experts"
in Nuku'alofa and Neiafu make these rings which are dispersed from the
seaports throughout the Archipelago. Inventive Tongans make rings out
301 177 326 of a tortoise shell substitute, namely the black celluloid rims of
bicycle pumps, and also decorate them with silver designs. Occasion-
301 [237] ally one sees tortoise shell bracelets which in /59/ workmanship and
inlays resemble tortoise shell rings and in shape are simple spirals.

Some Tongan women own gold finger rings (162)

[177] 162. A few Tongan men also wear these in imitation of the European custom of wedding rings.

and gold and silver bracelets; a few have necklaces of the same
301 177 material. This European adornment has not become very widespread
during the last decades. The gold rings were heavier in the recent
past than the ones preferred nowadays. Among the few "durable
ornaments" worn nowadays we must count the plastic combs which some
Tongan women wear in their hair and which to some extent replace
the beautiful old rodlet combs. (163)

163. G. Forster, loc. cit. p. 328.

302 The only survival of face painting seems to be the coloring of cheeks with the blood of freshly killed pigs that is sometimes practised by young boys.

301 292 535 824 The colorful belt of hibiscus bast, kie-kie lou fau, (164)

164. See page 323.

which was mentioned under clothing and which often replaces the ta'o-vala of women and girls, may also be regarded as adornment, as may the dance shirts worn by Tongan women on the occasion of big dances, (165)